Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 09/661,223 REQUEST FOR September 13, 2000 Filing Date **CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)** First Named Inventor Futoshi Kaibuki TRANSMITTAL 2189 Group Art Unit Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application Kim T. Huynh Examiner Name filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA). Attorney Docket Number 450100-02710 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under C.F.R. § 1.	114.		NOV 1 8 2003	
a. Previously submitted i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 16, 2003  (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered) ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on b. Enclosed				
<ul><li>i.  Preliminary Amendment</li><li>ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)</li></ul>	(IDO) 44 (41 IDA67 8)			
iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statem iv. ☐ Other	* *	•		
2. Miscellaneous	01 FC:1801 02 FC:1851	770.04 110.04		
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I) required)  b. Other  Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.				
<ul> <li>a.</li></ul>				
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED				
Name (Print/Type) William Sofromme	er Registration No. (A	tomey/Agent)	25,506	
Signature Manual Manual	Date Date	<sup>27</sup> Nover	mber 12, 2003	
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION				
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below at 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S.	deposited with the United Stand is addressed to: Mail Stop	ate Postal Service "Express Ma RCE, Commissioner For Pate	il Post Office to Addressee" service nts, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA	
	Jack So			
· Signature Chasts Ja	Date	Nove	mber 12, 2003	
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV195883235US				